

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated October 24, 2005. Reconsideration and allowance is requested.

Claims 3, 7, 8, 10, and 16 remain in this application. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 9, 11-15, and 17 were previously canceled.

Specification

In the Office Action, a requirement was made for a clean copy (without alterations) of the abstract on a separate page. A clean copy of the abstract is provided in the appendix of this response.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC 112

In the Office Action claims 3, 10, 7, 8, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant has amended the claims in accordance with the Examiner's comments and believes that the amended claims are patentable.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 3, 10, 7, 8, and 16 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph. The Applicant has amended the claims and believes that the amended claims are allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/618,426
Amdt. dated **February 17, 2006**
Reply to Final Office Action of 10/24/05

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



Jesus Del Castillo
Reg. No. 51,604

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
JDC:gjs
60640953 v1